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**CALIFORNIA
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September 8, 2000

To: Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) Administrators
District and County Chief Business Officials

From: Eileen Cubanski, Manager
School Fiscal Services Division

Subject: Nonpublic School—Extraordinary Cost Pool, Fiscal Year 1999-00

Education Code Section 56836.21 requires the California Department of Education (CDE) to administer an extraordinary cost pool that reimburses special education local plan areas (SELPAs) for single high-cost nonpublic, nonsectarian school placements in excess of a specified threshold. Pursuant to Section 56836.21, the threshold amount for claims in the 1999-00 fiscal year was calculated by multiplying the 1998-99 threshold of \$55,906.76 by the 1999-00 inflation factor of 1.41 percent to arrive at the \$56,695.05 threshold. Any new single placement in 1999-00 that exceeds this threshold will be reimbursed for the amount in excess of \$56,695.05.

Education Code Section 56836.21 provides a different calculation for the extraordinary cost pool threshold for Necessary Small SELPAs, as defined in *Education Code* Section 56212. The threshold for these SELPAs is equal to one percent of the SELPA's total funding for the current fiscal year. For example, a Necessary Small SELPA with a total funding base of \$3 million in 1999-00 will have a 1999-00 threshold of \$30,000. Any new single placement in 1999-00 that exceeds the Necessary Small SELPAs calculated 1999-00 threshold will be reimbursed for the amount in excess of that threshold, rather than the \$56,695.05 threshold.

It should be noted that the 1999 Budget Act appropriation for the nonpublic school extraordinary cost pool is \$1 million. If the total amount claimed by SELPAs, including the Necessary Small SELPAs, exceeds the amount appropriated, the claims will be prorated.

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Enclosed is a form for claiming the excess costs of single nonpublic school placements for 1999-00. A separate claim form for each pupil is required. Please include a copy of the NPS contract as documentation to support each claim. Forms should be mailed to:

California Department of Education
School Fiscal Services Division
Special Education Fiscal Services Unit
Attn: Judy Johnson
560 J Street, Suite 150
Sacramento, CA 95814

If you have any questions regarding the 1999-00 Extraordinary Cost Pool Claim Form, or if we can be of further assistance, please contact Robb Forsberg at (916) 324-4557 or by e-mail (rforsber@cde.ca.gov), or Judy Johnson at (916) 323-5185 or by e-mail (jjohnson@cde.ca.gov).

Enclosure